

MRS. HEE SHEE WONG ACHUCK

JULY 4 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 2840]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 2840) for the relief of Mrs. Hee Shee Wong Achuck, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to provide for the readmission into the United States of Mrs. Hee Shee Wong Achuck, who is a former resident of the United States and the mother of two United States citizen children.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 67-year-old native and citizen of China who resided in Honolulu for approximately 35 years. She returned to China with her husband and two United States citizen children in 1932. The children returned to the United States in 1933 and 1935 and are presently residing in Honolulu. The beneficiary of the bill is a widow and her only relatives are her two daughters in Honolulu.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated March 19, 1952, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

MARCH 19, 1952.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (H. R. 2840) for the relief of Mrs. Hee Shee Wong Achuck, an alien. The bill would grant a nonquota status in the

issuance of an immigration visa to Mrs. Achuck, a former resident of the United States. It is noted that while the name of Mrs. Achuck appears in the title of the bill it does not appear in the body thereof.

There is attached a memorandum prepared by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department setting forth the facts in the case.

Since Mrs. Achuck is an alien of the Chinese race, she is chargeable to the quota for Chinese persons, which is oversubscribed and an immigration visa is not readily obtainable. The alien abandoned her previous United States domicile when she departed from this country on December 23, 1932, so that she is not eligible for a nonquota visa as a resident alien returning from a temporary visit abroad.

Whether, under the circumstances in this case, the general provisions of the immigration laws should be waived presents a question of legislative policy concerning which this Department prefers not to make any recommendation.

Sincerely,

A. DEVITT VANECH,
Deputy Attorney General.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION
SERVICE FILES RE HEE SHEE WONG ACHUCK, BENEFICIARY OF H. R. 2840

Little information concerning Hee Shee Wong Achuck is contained in the files. The date and place of her birth are unknown. Her photograph indicates that she is of the Chinese race. She is presently residing in Macau, a Portuguese colony on the coast of China. She is a widow.

Mrs. Achuck's two daughters, Mrs. Ellen Ho and Miss Miriam Wong Achuck, who reside in Honolulu, T. H., stated that their mother departed from Honolulu on December 23, 1932, destined to Hong Kong. Mrs. Ho accompanied her at that time for a visit. Miss Miriam Wong Achuck had preceded them to Macau in September 1932. Mrs. Ellen Ho returned to Honolulu in March 1933 and Miriam Wong Achuck returned to Honolulu in 1935. Both daughters stated that their mother lived in the city of Macau with a stepson from 1932 until he died in November 1950. They stated that their mother now has no close relatives residing in Macau or in China. They further stated that their father left an estate which is in a trust fund in Honolulu and that from this trust fund their mother receives about \$100 per month which is sufficient for her support in Macau. The daughters desire that their mother be permitted to return to Honolulu to live with them.

Miriam Wong Achuck stated that she was born in Honolulu on January 17, 1916; that she does not know when her mother first came to Hawaii but believes it was when she was quite young. The records of the Honolulu office of this Service disclose that Hee Shee (Hee Shee Wong Achuck) appeared at that office on September 21, 1922, with her daughter, Miriam Achuck. She presented a birth certificate showing the birth of Miriam Achuck in Honolulu on January 17, 1916. She herself also claimed birth in Honolulu and produced two witnesses who testified that they had known her as a child in Honolulu. However, when called into the Honolulu office of this Service on September 25, 1922, Hee Shee presented a certificate of residence issued in the name of Choy Moy. That certificate of residence showed that Choy Moy came to Hawaii during December 1888, and that the said Choy Moy did not claim Hawaiian birth. The application of Hee Shee for a certificate showing birth in Hawaii was, therefore, denied by the Honolulu office of this Service as she could not prove birth in the Territory of Hawaii.

Delegate Joseph R. Farrington, the author of the bill, appeared before a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and made the following statement in support of the bill:

Mr. Chairman, I introduced H. R. 2840, for the relief of Mrs. Hee Shee Wong Achuck. The purpose of this bill is to grant nonquota status to Mrs. Achuck, a former resident of the United States, to enable her to return to her family in Hawaii. Since Mrs. Achuck is an alien of the Chinese race, she is chargeable to the limited quota for Chinese persons, which is heavily oversubscribed. Therefore, an immigration visa is not readily available to her.

According to my information, Mrs. Achuck was born in China in 1885 and came to the Territory of Hawaii in 1898, where she resided continuously until 1933 when she returned to China on a visit. She is a widow and entirely alone in China.

Mrs. Achuck has two American-citizen daughters, Mrs. Ellen Ho and Miss Miriam Wong Achuck, who reside in Honolulu. According to the memorandum accompanying the Department of Justice report on H. R. 2840, at the time of his death Mr. Achuck left his estate in a trust fund in Honolulu from which Mrs. Achuck receives about \$100 per month. However, it has been stated by the daughters that if their mother is permitted to return to Honolulu she will reside with one of them.

H. R. 2840 is but 1 of some 22 cases involving the aged parents of American citizen children, all of whom are financially able and want to provide for their parents if they are permitted to return to their homes in the Territory of Hawaii to spend their remaining days, which have been brought to my attention in the Eighty-second Congress and on whose behalf it has been necessary for me to introduce private legislation.

Three of these bills are on behalf of the Chinese parents of American citizens who find themselves in circumstances similar to Mrs. Achuck. Nineteen of the bills I have introduced relate to the alien Japanese parents of American citizens. But all of them are being forced to spend their remaining years alone and separated from their children and families merely because they, at one time, departed from this country and now wish to return.

It is stated in the departmental report on H. R. 2840 that while the name of Mrs. Achuck appears in the title of the bill it has been omitted in the body of the legislation. I would suggest, therefore, that H. R. 2840 be amended in order to correct this inadvertency.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 2840) should be enacted.

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The American Medical Association is a non-profit corporation organized for the purpose of promoting the interests of the medical profession and the public. It is organized into a national association and a number of local associations. The national association is organized into a number of departments, each of which is responsible for a particular aspect of the medical profession. The local associations are organized into a number of districts, each of which is responsible for a particular aspect of the medical profession in that district.

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